

Living a Discerning Life in a Deceptive World  
Joshua 9  
December 4, 2024

**Seek the Wisdom of God :: vv. 1-15**

The Gibeonite deception was immaculately planned.

The evidence seems so tangible and believable. Who could dispute what was obvious?

Israel was also on a spiritual high following their victory at Ai and their renewal service in 8:30-35.

V. 14 - Their success and the seemingly credible evidence led them to be arrogant and prideful. They needed God's wisdom.

*Do we need the guidance of God only when we doubt? Do we not need to be careful when we begin to think, "There is no need to consult the Lord on this matter - it's quite clear." We must beware of the subtle unbelief that assumes "I have this under control."*

What is wisdom? The application of knowledge.

James 1:5 is a call for us to ask God to give us the ability to know how to use the knowledge we have. What knowledge? The Bible.

## **Be Faithful When We Fail :: vv. 16-21**

What was Israel to do in light of their foolishness? Live as faithfully as they could within that twisted situation.

We must trust Romans 8:28 - He doesn't promise us that all wise decisions will work out for good but that *all* things will work out for good.

## **Look for God's Redemptive Purposes :: vv 22-27**

The Gibeonites were now cursed, but they were also now in a situation where they would learn about the true God and see the true God at work among his people.

We never know how God is going to be active. Trust Him. Trust that God is sufficient to handle your stupidity, foolishness, and sin. Trust that He is good enough to use it for good.